

11. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Mr. George DeCota, 1419 Lake Street, Lodi addressed the City Council regarding a neighbors RV that is parked next to his driveway and stated that he is concerned about the safety of citizens walking down the sidewalk in the area. Mr. DeCota gave a brief history of the problem and stated that now that he has done some revamping on his property, the problem has exaggerated. Mr. DeCota presented pictures of the problem for Council's perusal.

Community Development Director Bartlam stated that he had spoken with Mr. DeCota and cannot find any violations; however, he feels there is a safety issue. He has attempted to talk to Mr. DeCota's neighbor, but has been unable to reach him by telephone. Mr. Bartlam then discussed the 45% rule regarding asphalt or concrete paving in a front yard and indicated that Mr. DeCota's neighbor is completely within his rights.

The City Council referred the matter to staff to see if the problem could be resolved.

12. COMMENTS BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Council Member Warner stated that he had gone to the Vines to Wines function on Sunday, stating that it was very well done. He indicated that the Convention and Visitors Bureau were involved, and the event included five wineries, and consisted of tasting and education. He stated that it was a great event.
- b) Mayor Pro Tempore Sieglock stated that he had read about the Parks and Recreations struggle regarding the basketball court/s at Legion Park and asked that the matter be on the June 18, 1997 agenda for discussion.
- c) Mayor Pennino indicated that he had attended a meeting today hosted by the San Joaquin Partnership where it was announced that American Eagle flights may be coming to the Stockton Airport. Mayor Pennino asked that a letter of support be sent.
- d) City Manager Flynn indicated that he had received a FAX today indicating that the California Code Administrator submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission an area code relief plan for the 209 area code. The plan recommends that the northern half of the existing 209 area code retain the 209 number.

The Administrator cited several reasons for the decision. Included in those reasons are the location of Medic Alert in Turlock, the number of wireless customers in the northern region, as well as the north's interaction with other surrounding area codes.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Pennino adjourned the City Council meeting at 10:00 p.m. to a Closed Session to discuss the following matter:

- a) Labor Relations - United Firefighters of Lodi (UFL) - Negotiator: Human Resources Director Joanne Narloch

*City Council/Corresp/letters
memo pac bell.doc*

CITY COUNCIL

PHILLIP A. PENNINO, Mayor
JACK A. SIEGLOCK
Mayor Pro Tempore
KEITH LAND
STEPHEN J. MANN
DAVID P. WARNER

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
P.O. BOX 3006
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-1910
(209) 333-6702
FAX (209) 333-6807

H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
JENNIFER M. PERRIN
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

June 11, 1997

Mr. William J. Kenney
Director, Public Affairs
Pacific Bell
2700 Watt Avenue, Room, 2302
Sacramento, CA 95860-0765

Dear Mr. Kenney:

Information contained in your June 4, 1997 letter was presented to the Lodi City Council at its regular meeting of that date.

We are most pleased with your recommendation to the California Public Utilities Commission to retain the existing 209 area code in the Northern half of the existing 209 code area.

The City Council is very supportive of the reasons cited for this recommendation which included the location of Medic Alert in Turlock, the number of wireless customers in the Northern Region, and the North's interaction with the other area codes.

We look forward to receiving the final decision regarding this issue by the Public Utilities Commission late this summer and appreciate your keeping us updated on this matter.

Sincerely,

Phillip A. Pennino
Mayor

PAP/ssl

FAX COVER SHEET

PACIFIC BELL
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
2700 WATT AVE., ROOM 2302
P.O. BOX 15038
SACRAMENTO, CA 95851

JUN 04 1997
City Manager's Office

TO	PHONE #	FAX #
Dixon Flynn	209-333-6702	209-333-6807
City Manager		
City of Lodi		
FROM	PHONE #	FAX #
Bill Kenney	916-972-2813	916-489-8360
Pgs including cover>	5	Date 6/4/97

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William J. Kenney
Director - Public Affairs

2700 Watt Avenue, 2302
P.O. Box 50765
Sacramento, California 95860-0765
(916) 972-2813
Fax: (916) 489-8360

PACIFIC BELL
A Pacific Telesis Company

June 4, 1997

Mr. Dixon Flynn
City Manager
City of Lodi
P.O. Box 3006
Lodi, CA 95241

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Today, the California Code Administrator submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission an area code relief plan for the 209 area code. The plan recommends that the northern half of the existing 209 area code retain the 209 number.

The Administrator, Doug Hescoc, cites several reasons for the decision. Included in these reasons are the location of Medic Alert in Turlock, the number of wireless customers in the northern region, as well as the north's interaction with other surrounding area codes.

When the area code is split on November 14, 1998, the smaller 209 area is expected to last 10 to 11 1/2 years.

The Public Utilities Commission is expected to issue a final decision by the end of summer. Comments may be directed to:

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Thank you for participating in the public meetings, local jurisdiction meetings, letters to the CPUC and other activities that informed our community, business leaders and the general public of this important issue.

If you have questions, please call me at 916-972-2813.

Yours sincerely,



Attachment: CNCA News Release: *Industry Recommends That North Region
Keep 209 Area Code*



California-Nevada Code Administration
2600 Camino Ramon, Rm. 1S900U
San Ramon, Ca. 94583

News Release

For Immediate Release
June 4, 1997

Contact: Bonnie Ward
(916) 972-3019

Industry Recommends That Northern Region Keep 209 Area Code *Plan Filed Today With State Commission; Final Decision Expected This Summer*

San Francisco — An area code relief plan was submitted today to the California Public Utilities Commission to split the 209 area code in November 1998 and retain the 209 number in the northern region and give a new area code to the southern region.

California Code Administrator Doug Hescoc, acting on behalf of the statewide telecommunications industry, submitted the plan to the Commission for review and final approval. A final decision is expected this summer.

Major factors contributing to the industry's recommendation to keep the 209 area code in the north were: a worldwide emergency medical information service and a major military support service are located in the north, the north has more telephone prefixes open and stronger ties to its surrounding area codes, Hescoc said. Telecommunications industry representatives voted unanimously in support of the plan at an industry meeting in April. "There were two abstentions and those were because those industry members felt the Commission should make the decision," Hescoc said.

Introduction of the new area code is planned for Nov. 14, 1998 and is needed to meet the rapidly growing demand for additional phone numbers in the 209 area code, which now serves at least part of each of the 22 counties in the San Joaquin Valley. Introduction of the new area code will have no effect on the price of calls. "Call distance and time determines the price of a phone call, not whether or not you dial an area code," Hescoc said.

Hescoc, who coordinates area code relief planning statewide for the telecommunications industry, acknowledged that it was a difficult decision to determine which region should keep the more familiar 209 area code and which should receive a new area code. That subject has been the source of heated debate in the last several months, with local officials and residents in both the northern and southern halves of the region lobbying to keep the 209 number when the area code splits.

"In most area code splits, it's usually more clear cut as to which area should retain the existing area code," Hescoc said. "This is a region where both the northern and southern sections were similar in many ways, including population, number of telephone prefixes and businesses."

The telecommunications industry team looked at many issues in determining where to place the 209 area code, but the most important factors were:

- **MedicAlert[®] is located in the north.** MedicAlert[®] is located in Turlock and provides a 209-based telephone number for 24 hour, collect calling for emergency medical information for 3 million plus members worldwide. Members wear MedicAlert[®] bracelets with the number

- more -

Page 2 -- Industry Recommends 209 Number Stay In North

imprinted on them. "The telecommunications industry felt that any change to this number could possibly jeopardize the lives of those needing emergency medical treatment worldwide," Hescoc said. "The task of replacing all 3 million bracelets to reflect a new phone number would be massive and MedAlert® officials worry that some clients might not get the message. This, of course, could have tragic consequences." Industry members considered this the most significant reason for retaining the 209 area code in the northern region.

- **The north has more telephone prefixes open than the south.** "We generally try to avoid changing the area code in the region with the most telephone customers. That's because the more numbers you have to change the more customer confusion that will be caused. The north currently has nine more prefixes open than the south. A prefix has 10,000 numbers, meaning there are 90,000 more numbers available for assignment in the north than the south.
- **The north has more interaction with its surrounding area codes than the south.** Hescoc said the northern 209 region has many residents who work, do business or shop in the surrounding area codes. "There's a lot of commuting by residents in the north to the Bay Area (area codes 510, 415 and 408) as well as into the Sacramento area (916 area code)," Hescoc said. Approximately 30,000 commuters travel through the Altamont corridor daily from San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties (both in the northern 209) to the greater Bay Area, according to statistics from the San Joaquin Council of Governments.

"Customers in the north have more interaction with the Bay Area and Sacramento area codes than do customers in the south with their surrounding area codes," Hescoc continued. He said this information is supported by input from members of the telecommunications industry during meetings on the 209 area code. "This is important because it means changing the area code in the southern portion of the 209 would cause less confusion for the surrounding region than would changing it in the north."

- **The Defense Logistics Agency - Defense Distribution Region West -- is located in the north.** This agency, located in Stockton, runs the San Joaquin Depot, which is the primary supply distribution site for west of the Mississippi River to the Pacific Theater of Operations. The San Joaquin Depot processes a monthly average of 334,963 transactions for supplies, equipment and materials in support of U.S. military personnel. The Depot provided supplies to troops during the Gulf War and in the Bosnia peacekeeping mission. "They process supply orders for thousands of military personnel," said Hescoc. "The concern is an area code change could disrupt the order process causing delays or even threatening the security of U.S. military personnel," Hescoc said. He said the agency receives about 100 phone calls daily for emergency supplies.

Under the plan, the area code split line generally runs along the Madera County line where it borders on Mariposa and Merced counties. The northern area includes: Tuolumne, Calaveras and Amador counties, most of Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Mariposa counties and very small parts of Madera, Fresno, Sacramento, El Dorado, Alpine, Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties. The southern area includes: most of Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings counties, and very small parts of Merced, Mariposa, Mono, Inyo, San Benito, Monterey and Kern counties.

The 209 area code is expected to accommodate growth for 10 to 11 1/2 years in the north, while the new area code in the southern region will last from 13 to 15 1/4 years. "Customers in the south will get the benefit of a longer area code lifespan," Hescoc said, noting that the new area code could last

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Page 3 — Industry Recommends 209 Number Stay In North

up to four years longer than the 209 area code in the north. "That means it will be a long time, possibly more than 15 years, before customers in the south have to worry about another area code change."

The California Public Utilities Commission is expected to issue a final decision on the 209 area code relief plan this summer. Persons who wish to comment on the plan may write to:

**California Public Utilities Commission
Telecommunications Division, 3rd Floor
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102**

Hescox said the industry was very conscientious about getting public input on the 209 area code issue. "First, we held a series of three public meetings in October 1996. Then we went back and held a second round of public meetings in March and April 1997 to get comment specifically about which region should keep the 209 area code. We also met with local officials and community leaders to gather their input," he said. "We received a lot of valuable information at these meetings and through letters that helped us in making our final recommendation."

Hescox noted that when the new area code is introduced in November 1998, a six-month "get acquainted" dialing period will follow which allows people to dial either the old 209 or new area code to reach phone numbers in the new area code. The actual three-digit new area code will be announced by the end of 1997.

The 209 is the latest in a series of regions in California requiring area code relief due to increased phone number demand. "California now has 15 area codes -- more than any other state -- and will need to add another eight by the end of 1998 to keep pace with demand," Hescox said.

Two primary factors driving that increasing demand are local telephone service competition and the high-technology explosion. "With the onset of widespread competition in California's local telephone market in 1996, each new provider requires its own supply of phone numbers. In 1996, we assigned more than 1,100 prefixes statewide and 601 -- more than half -- were issued to new competitors. Further, the rising demand for fax machines, pagers, cellular phones, data communications networks like ATMs and pay point services, modems for Internet access, and other high-tech equipment also is increasing the demand for phone numbers," he said.

The 209 area code plan was collectively developed by a telecommunications industry group representing numerous companies, including AirTouch, AT&T, AT&T Wireless, the California Cable Television Association, GTE, MCI, Pacific Bell, Pagenet, Ponderosa Telephone, Sierra Telephone, Sprint, World Com and others. The industry meetings were organized by California Code Administration.

California Code Administration is an independent planning group that coordinates area code relief planning and administers numbering resources on behalf of the California telecommunications industry. Final decisions on area code issues are made by the California Public Utilities Commission.



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Editor's Note: A map that shows the 209 area code split boundaries is available by fax from the California-Nevada Code Administration. For more information or to request a copy, call (916) 972-3019.